

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ( ISO ) W

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R 300949Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9393

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 6856

EXDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS1-DATE IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EEC, RO, UR

SUBJECT: EC/ROMANIAN CONTACTS

1. A SENIOR OFFICIAL IN THE EC COMMISSION HAS BRIEFED US, IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, ON PROSPECTS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN EC AND ROMANIA ON ECONOMIC SUBJECTS. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, DURING THE COURSE OF EC/ROMANIAN TEXTILE DISCUSSIONS, THE ROMANIANS HAVE "STRONGLY AND REPEATEDLY HINTED" THAT THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO SEE THESE DISCUSSIONS BROADENED TO ENCOMPASS "ECONOMIC COOPERATIONS" ALONG THE LINES OF THE EC'S PROPOSED MODEL BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT. THE ROMANIANS HAVE SWORN THE COMMISSION TO SECRECY, SAYING THAT THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO EXPAND DISCUSSIONS ONLY SO LONG AS THE SOVIETS REMAIN UNAWARE THAT THESE CONTACTS HAVE GONE BEYOND DISCUSSIONS STRICTLY RELATED TO TEXTILES.

2. COMMENT: THE COMMISSION APPEARS UNSURE AS TO HOW TO BEST REACT TO THESE OVERTURES. ON ONE HAND THEY WOULD BE EAGER TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS WITH ROMANIA AND TO BREAK THE LOG-JAM BLOCKING THE NEGOTIATIONS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BY THE EC COMMISSION. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD FRANKLY THAT THEY DO NOT THINK IT POSSIBLE TO KEEP THE EC/ ROMANIAN DISCUSSIONS SECRET INDEFINITELY, AND ARE FEARFUL OF

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POSSIBLE SOVIET REACTION BOTH WITH REGARD TO ROMANIA AND TO

THE COMMUNITY. IN THE LATTER INSTANCE, THEY ARE CONCERNED  
THAT ANY IMPLICATION OF "DEALING UNDER THE TABLE" MIGHT EVENTUALLY  
TOLERATE BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND CEMA MEMBER  
STATES. AS A RESULT OF THIS QUANDARY, IT IS OUR JUDGMENT THAT  
THE COMMISSION WILL STALL THE ROMANIANS AS LONG AS POSSIBLE,  
IN HOPE THAT NOTHING NEED BE DONE UNTIL AFTER DISCUSSIONS ARE  
RESUMED BETWEEN THE EC AND CEMA. END COMMENT MORRIS

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## Message Attributes

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